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CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. Appl. No.

PCT/IB 99/01101

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 6 A01N25/34 A01N37/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 A01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 828 912 A (SHAFI U. HOSSAIN) 9 May 1989 (1989-05-09) * see the whole document*	1-17
X	DE 32 29 097 A (SCHÜLKE & MAYR) 9 February 1984 (1984-02-09) page 5, line 16 - page 11, line 7	1-6
X	WO 96 09761 A (DIVERSEY CORPORATION) 4 April 1996 (1996-04-04) page 2, line 13 - page 6, line 5 examples 1-5	1-6
X, P	DE 197 37 072 A (ROMAINE-NIESSNER.) 4 March 1999 (1999-03-04) column 2, line 7 - line 27 column 4, line 30 - line 38 -/--	1-6

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 August 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/08/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Fort, M

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB 99/01101

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98 21305 A (RECKITT & COLMAN) 22 May 1998 (1998-05-22) * see the whole document*	1-6
A	WO 97 46205 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 11 December 1997 (1997-12-11)	
A	US 4 772 501 A (JOHNSON & AL) 20 September 1988 (1988-09-20)	

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB 99/01101

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4828912	A	09-05-1989	US 4975217 A	04-12-1990
			US 4897304 A	30-01-1990
			AU 554127 B	07-08-1986
			AU 8621082 A	27-01-1983
			BE 893895 A	16-11-1982
			CA 1188225 A	04-06-1985
			DE 3227126 A	03-02-1983
			DK 315482 A	21-01-1983
			FI 822542 A	21-01-1983
			FR 2509577 A	21-01-1983
			GB 2103089 A,B	16-02-1983
			GR 76879 A	04-09-1984
			JP 58135802 A	12-08-1983
			LU 84282 A	07-02-1983
			NL 8202885 A	16-02-1983
			PH 21282 A	28-09-1987
			SE 8204372 A	19-07-1982
			ZA 8204975 A	29-02-1984
DE 3229097	A	09-02-1984	CA 1244759 A	15-11-1988
			ZA 8305608 A	25-04-1984
WO 9609761	A	04-04-1996	AU 3468995 A	19-04-1996
			BR 9509103 A	14-07-1998
			CA 2198354 A	04-04-1996
			DE 69506120 D	24-12-1998
			DE 69506120 T	15-04-1999
			EP 0783245 A	16-07-1997
			ES 2124586 T	01-02-1999
			JP 10506393 T	23-06-1998
			ZA 9507952 A	18-04-1996
DE 19737072	A	04-03-1999	NONE	
WO 9821305	A	22-05-1998	GB 2319179 A	20-05-1998
			AU 4341897 A	03-06-1998
			US 5891392 A	06-04-1999
WO 9746205	A	11-12-1997	US 5830487 A	03-11-1998
			AU 3288597 A	05-01-1998
US 4772501	A	20-09-1988	US 4732797 A	22-03-1988

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office  
 Box PCT  
 Washington, D.C. 20231  
 ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

<b>Date of mailing</b> (day/month/year) 14 February 2000 (14.02.00)	
<b>International application No.</b> PCT/IB99/01101	<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b> 7499/VB
<b>International filing date</b> (day/month/year) 14 June 1999 (14.06.99)	<b>Priority date</b> (day/month/year) 26 June 1998 (26.06.98)
<b>Applicant</b> SELF, Peter, Michael et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:  
 13 January 2000 (13.01.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. The election ☒ was

☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Jean-Marc Vivet Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

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PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

7

Applicant's or agent's file reference 7499/VB	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/IB99/01101	International filing date (day/month/year) 14/06/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 26/06/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A01N25/34		
Applicant THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.


2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☒ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  13/01/2000	Date of completion of this report  29.08.2000
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:   European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer  Mitchell, G  Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8678



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/IB99/01101

**I. Basis of the report**

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

**Description, pages:**

1-22 as originally filed

**Claims, No.:**

1-17 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:  
☐ the claims, Nos.:  
☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims
	No:	Claims 1-17
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims
	No:	Claims 1-17
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims 1-17
	No:	Claims

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/IB99/01101

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**2. Citations and explanations**

**see separate sheet**

**VI. Certain documents cited**

**1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)**

**and / or**

**2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)**

**see separate sheet**

**VII. Certain defects in the international application**

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

**see separate sheet**

**VIII. Certain observations on the international application**

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

**see separate sheet**



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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International application No. PCT/IB99/01101

**Re Item I**

**Basis of the opinion**

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US-A-4 828 912 (SHAFI U. HOSSAIN) 9 May 1989 (1989-05-09)
- D2: DE 32 29 097 A (SCHÜLKE & MAYR) 9 February 1984 (1984-02-09)
- D3: WO 96 09761 A (DIVERSEY CORPORATION) 4 April 1996 (1996-04-04)
- D4: DE 197 37 072 A (ROMAINE-NIESSNER.) 4 March 1999 (1999-03-04)
- D5: WO 98 21305 A (RECKITT & COLMAN) 22 May 1998 (1998-05-22)
- D6: WO 97 46205 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 11 December 1997 (1997-12-11)

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

The subject-matter of claims 1-17 does not appear to satisfy the PCT criteria for novelty and inventive step, as set out in article 33(1)-(3) PCT.

D1 discloses a method for annihilating harmful respiratory viruses and inhibiting the spread of diseases. One of the preferred embodiments is the use of a wet wipe e.g. impregnated or coated substrates such as facial tissue and nonwoven materials (page 3, column 5, line 28-35). The virus being killed on contact with the treated tissue. D1 discloses the use of acids such as citric, malic, succinic and benzoic used in conjunction with a surfactant such as sodium dodecyl sulfate (page 2, column 4, line 12-19). The surfactants may also be nonionic, for example polyoxyethylenated alkylphenols (page 2, column 4, line 61-62).

D2 relates to antimicrobial compositions which comprise an organic acid such as citric acid (page 8, line 18) and an alkylsulfonate and/or alkylsulfate, useful as a disinfectant for the food industry with activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* (page 6, line 12). The problems of previous disinfectants relating to strong smells and toxic products are discussed. It is therefore, implicit that the disinfectant remains on the treated surface.

D3 concerns a disinfectant composition which comprises an anionic surfactant chosen

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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International application No. PCT/IB99/01101

from an alkali metal salt of a C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> alkyl sulphate and an alkali metal salt of di(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl) sulphosuccinate, an acid and a nonionic surfactant. The nonionic surfactants are polyethoxylated sorbitan esters. The amount of acid in the composition is present in 2-28 wt%, preferably 7-13%wt and more preferably 10% wt (page 5, line 23-25), citric acid being among the choice of acids (see abstract). The disinfectant composition is observed to show optimum disinfectant activity below pH 3 (page 5, line 1-2). The disinfectants are disclosed as being suitable for use in cleaning and disinfecting machinery and work surfaces which have been used in the preparation of foodstuffs and beverages (page 5, line 27-29).

D5 discloses aqueous cleaning and disinfecting compositions which comprise HOOH as an active disinfecting constituent, a monohydric alcohol, a glycol ether or butoxypropanol or propoxypropanol, a nonionic surfactant and citric acid. The compositions are particularly effective against *Salmonella choleraesius* and *Staphylococcus aureus* (page 2, line 16-24). The citric acid may be present up to 7% wt, however, the pH is maintained at in the range of 1-4 (page 6, line 13-15). Optional constituents may also be added, these include fragrances, natural or synthetically produced (page 7, line 7-8). The compositions of D5 are most suitable for a "spray and wipe" formulation (page 9, line 19-20) for use on a hard surface as a cleaning and disinfecting composition.

For each of the prior art, in order to achieve the desired antimicrobial activity, it is implicit that the composition is deposited on the treated surface. The quantity of active ingredient used in the present application is so low that it can be met by many of the prior art compositions e.g. D2, example 1, part 5.

The technical problem of the present application is the provision of an antimicrobial method involving contacting a hard surface with an effective amount of antimicrobial composition. However, there is no surprising effect over the prior art, therefore, no inventive merit is acknowledged.

The inclusion of the loading factor in the independent claims 7, 14 and 17 does not render the subject-matter new and inventive over the prior art (see Re Item VIII, point 3), since the application of an antimicrobial solution to a nonwoven material is well known in the art and would be obvious to one skilled in the art.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/IB99/01101

Furthermore, the "article of manufacture" of claim 17, which incorporates the subject-matter of claim 7 with the additional features of a container and a set of instructions, is not inventive in the sense of art. 33 PCT because the premoistened wipe is not inventive, therefore the packaging of such a material is also not considered to be inventive.

**Re Item VI**

**Certain documents cited**

Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)

Application No Patent No	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
DE 19737072 A1	04.03.1999	26.08.1997	26.08.1997

The document D4 indicated on the international search report as a P-document will not be taken into consideration with regard to novelty or inventive step assessment. The filing date falls before the priority date (26.06.1998) and the filing date (14.06.1999) of the present application. Since the priority document is not presently available, the priority is assumed to be valid and therefore, D4 shall not be taken into consideration for novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability assessment, at the moment. If, however, at the regional phase of examination, the priority is found to be invalid D4 may be used for novelty assessment for the parts of the application for which priority is not valid.

**Re Item VII**

**Certain defects in the international application**

1. The term "incorporated herein by reference" is used throughout the description. If the applicant wishes to incorporate the documents mentioned, the disclosure thereof should be included expressis verbis in the description under the conditions set out in the PCT guidelines 4.17 or the phrase "incorporated herein by reference" should be deleted.
2. The units of "inches" / "per square inch" employed in the claims and the description are not additionally expressed in terms of the units stipulated by Rule 10.1(a)PCT.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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International application No. PCT/IB99/01101

**Re Item VIII**

**Certain observations on the international application**

1. The term "at least about" and "about" used throughout the claims does not define the parameter to which it relates. The use of "about" in the claims should be avoided particularly for ranges as it renders the subject-matter obscure, since the endpoints of the range are made unclear. Furthermore, the use of "about" does not clearly delimit the subject-matter from the prior art.
2. The term "remain" used in claim 1 renders the subject-matter vague.
3. The term "loading factor" is defined in the description (page 17, line 13-15), however, this definition does not indicate how much active ingredient is contained in the 2 grams of liquid antimicrobial composition. Thus, the inclusion of this feature renders the subject-matter of the claims vague and furthermore, does not distinguish the present application from the prior art.
4. With respect to the following, no support can be found in the description:
  - a) Claim 6 discloses "mixtures thereof" (of Salmonella cholraesius and Staphylooccus aureus).
  - b) The range of solvent disclosed in claim 11.
  - c) The ranges disclosed in claim 14 parts (iv) and (v).

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>7499/VB</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. <b>PCT/IB 99/01101</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>14/06/1999</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>26/06/1998</b>
Applicant <b>THE PROCTER &amp; GAMBLE COMPANY et al.</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

## 1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

**PREMOISTENED WIPE WITH RESIDUAL ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY**

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☐ None of the figures.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB 99/01101

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 A01N25/34 A01N37/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 A01N

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X,P	DE 197 37 072 A (ROMAINE-NIESSNER.) 4 March 1999 (1999-03-04) column 2, line 7 - line 27 column 4, line 30 - line 38 -/--	1-6

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- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
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"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 August 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/08/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Fort, M

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/IB 99/01101

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4828912	A	09-05-1989	US 4975217 A	04-12-1990
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			DE 69506120 D	24-12-1998
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			ES 2124586 T	01-02-1999
			JP 10506393 T	23-06-1998
			ZA 9507952 A	18-04-1996
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WO 9821305	A	22-05-1998	GB 2319179 A	20-05-1998
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			US 5891392 A	06-04-1999
WO 9746205	A	11-12-1997	US 5830487 A	03-11-1998
			AU 3288597 A	05-01-1998
US 4772501	A	20-09-1988	US 4732797 A	22-03-1988